

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 DHA-02 (ISO) W
-----021110 110170 /22

R 011923Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1933
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1106

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR NATO CSCE UK UR
SUBJECT: CSCE: BASKET III: UK/SOVIET CONVERSATION

SUMMARY: SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON DESCRIBED WESTERN
INTEREST IN EAST EUROPEAN AND SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS
ISSUES AND BASKET III IMPLEMENTATION IN TERMS OF AN
"INTOLERABLE" INTERFERENCE IN ANOTHER NATION'S INTERNAL
AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MARCH 1 POLADS, UK REP REPORTED THAT SOVIET
AMBASSADOR LUNKOV, IN A FEB 23 CALL ON UK MINISTER
OF STATE GORONWY-ROBERTS, DISMISSED HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES
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AS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE TO HALTING THE ARMS RACE,
CURBING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND ACHIEVING NUCLEAR
DISARMAMENT. GORONWY-ROBERTS REPLIED THAT THE BRITISH
PEOPLE TAKE SERIOUSLY THE PROVISIONS OF THE CSCE FINAL
ACT, ESPECIALLY THOSE REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAMILY
REUNIFICATION, AND TRIED TO PRESENT LUNKOV WITH AN UPDATED
LIST OF UNRESOLVED FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES CONCERNING
SOVIET CITIZENS WHO HAD A CLAIM TO UK CITIZENSHIP OR
HAD RELATIVES IN THE UK. THOUGH GORONWY-ROBERTS EXPLAINED
THAT THE LIST WAS ONLY AN UPDATED VERSION OF THAT PRESENTED

TO LUNKOV ON FEB 16, 1976, LUNKOV REFUSED TO
ACCEPT THE LIST AND DENIED RECEIVING THE EARLIER ONE.

2. LUNKOV EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE BRITISH INTEREST
IN BASKET III IMPLEMENTATION AND SAID THAT THE PRESEN-
TATION OF LISTS OF UNRESOLVED PERSONAL CASES WAS TAN-
TAMOUNT TO INTERFERENCE IN ANOTHER STATE'S INTERNAL
AFFAIRS. LUNKOV NOTED THAT INTERFERENCE IN ANOTHER
STATE'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS HAD IN THE PAST BEEN GROUNDS
FOR WAR, AND THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED SUCH INTERFERENCE
"INTOLERABLE". LUNKOV SAID THAT IF THE WEST INFLATED
HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASKET III ISSUES INTO MATTERS OF
STATE IT WOULD LEAD TO CONFRONTATION AT BELGRADE, HARM
DETENTE, AND FOSTER A CLIMATE OF MISTRUST BETWEEN EAST
AND WEST.

3. UK AUTHORITIES WERE REPOTEDLY STRUCK BY THE HARD
LINE LUNKOV TOOK AND THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY DISPLAYED.
THE BRITISH NOTED THAT LUNKOV WAS ACCOMPANIED ON IS CALL
BY SEMENOV, A SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR REPUTED TO BE A
HARD-LINER, WHO THE BRITISH SUSPECT CAME ALONG TO
INSURE LUNKOV FOLLOWED HIS INSTRUCTIONS. THE BRITISH
PLAN TO SEND THE SPURNED LIST TO THE SOVIETS VIA
A NOTE VERBALE. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO01106
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703110/baaabcat.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 979601b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2961425
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE: BASKET III: UK/SOVIET CONVERSATION
TAGS: PFOR NATO CSCE UK UR
To: STATE INFO BELGRADE MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/979601b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009